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REMARKS

Claims 125-127 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 124 and 128-161 are pending in the present application.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment presents no new issues or new matter and places this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

I. The Rejection of Claims 124-126, 131, 132, and 161 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 124-126, 131, 132, and 161 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mikkelsen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,777,218). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated in the prior response, the subject matter described in Mikkelsen et al. and Applicants' invention claimed herein were developed in the same collaboration and project by Maxygen and Novozymes. Thus, Mikkelsen et al. is not prior art against the present application. However, in order to advance prosecution, the subject matter of claim 127 has been incorporated into claim 124. Applicants therefore submit that this rejection has been overcome. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application on the canceled subject matter.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Respectfully submitted,

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